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IAC-M-270  
4 December 1956

INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting Held in  
IAC Conference Room, Administration Building  
Central Intelligence Agency, at 1045, 4 December 1956

Director of Central Intelligence  
Allen W. Dulles  
Presiding

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. W. Park Armstrong, Jr., Special Assistant for Intelligence,  
Department of State  
Major General Robert A. Schow, \* Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence,  
Department of the Army  
Lieutenant Colonel Charles H. Pratt, \* acting for Assistant Chief of  
Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Army  
Rear Admiral Laurence H. Frost, Director of Naval Intelligence,  
Department of the Navy  
Major General Millard Lewis, Director of Intelligence, Headquarters,  
United States Air Force  
Brigadier General Richard Collins, Deputy Director for Intelligence,  
The Joint Staff  
Mr. Harry S. Traynor, Atomic Energy Commission representative  
to the IAC  
Mr. Ralph R. Roach, acting for Federal Bureau of Investigation  
representative to the IAC

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\* Part of meeting

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1. Approval of Minutes

a. 27 November Meeting  
(IAC-M-268)

Approved as written.

b. 29 November Meeting  
(IAC-M-269)

Approved as written.

2. Watch Committee Report  
No. 330

Noted this report.

3. Proposed Review of Procedures  
of the Watch Committee and the  
National Indications Center  
(IAC-D-6/14, 23 November 1956)

a. In response to the Chairman's request for any general comment on his proposal, General Collins referred to his memorandum on this matter and stated that, since the watch machinery recently had had a test run under high pressure conditions, it appeared to be an appropriate time for examining the Watch Committee and National Indications Center (NIC) procedures. Subsequently, after noting that he was not necessarily suggesting that there were deficiencies, General Collins emphasized that he was interested particularly in a review of mechanical arrangements affecting operation of the NIC and the Watch Committee.

b. The Chairman and each of the members expressed his views on this proposal, covering generally matters such as the desirability, timing and scope of any review. The members also exchanged views with [ ] on various matters relevant to operation of the NIC. Several members suggested that an attempt be made initially to identify or isolate those problems which might require study. During the

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discussion, it was also noted by General Cabell that Watch Reports were designed mainly for use by the intelligence community, and were drafted in a form which envisioned appropriate elaboration by intelligence agencies prior to their use, particularly by field or operational commanders.

c. Following their discussion, the members agreed, with the concurrence of General Collins, that, prior to any further action on this matter, the NIC should prepare a list of possible problems or areas of deficiency in the watch machinery procedures, which list should then be submitted for review by the IAC at an early IAC meeting.

4. Ad Hoc Current Intelligence  
Group for the Taiwan Strait  
Problem

a. After Mr. Sheldon referred to certain matters bearing on the operation of this working group, and raised a question with respect to the nature and frequency of future meetings, the members discussed various factors affecting this problem. In the course of the discussion, Admiral Frost queried whether the scope of the group's activities should be broadened. Responding to a question by the Chairman, General Cabell also noted that the group does not duplicate but rather assists the work of the National Indications Center.

b. Following their discussion, the members agreed that this group should meet at least once a month, but that, during the period between monthly meetings, there should be a telephone check to obtain views of the members of the working group on recent developments. It was also agreed that Admiral Frost could outline in more detail at a later IAC meeting any proposal he might have for broadening the mandate of the group.

5. CIA Memorandum

Following distribution to the members of a CIA memorandum touching on certain aspects of the Egyptian and Suez situation, the Chairman stated that this paper had been passed to the White House

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and Secretary of State. The Chairman invited the members to give him any comments they might have on the paper prior to the next scheduled NSC meeting.

6. Report by Mr. Wisner

The Chairman introduced Mr. Wisner, who reviewed generally various aspects of his recent trip abroad, particularly his impressions gained with respect to developments in Western Europe, the Satellites and Middle East.

8. SEC Progress Report on  
Action Taken Pursuant to  
Post-Mortem on NIE 11-56  
(IAC-D-57/28.1, 27 November 1956)

Noted this report, as amended, and approved the recommendation contained therein. It was also agreed that the revised report should be circulated and recipients asked to destroy any copies of the report previously distributed.

9. Release of SNIE 12-3-56  
Probable Developments in  
Soviet-Satellite Relations  
(Memorandum to IAC, 29 November)

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